

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, March 21, 2007 2:39 p.m. Room 307 House Office Building, Lansing

Representative Mayes, Chair, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Mayes, Byrum, Angerer, Brown, Kathleen Law, Leland, Sheltroun, Walker, Nitz, Ball, Meekhof. (11/11)

Representative Byrum made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of March 7, 2007. No objections being offered, a unanimous ballot was cast to adopt the minutes as presented.

Jim Byrum, representing the Michigan Agribusiness Association, provided a presentation regarding Renewable Fuels and the Bioeconomy in Michigan. Mr. Byrum discussed the development of ethanol plants; corn utilization and demand; ethanol production capacity; and the impact of a rising price on corn on various companies and services.

Keith Reinholt, representing the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee, spoke to the Committee regarding Biodiesel/Diesel knowledge; diesel engine myths; diesel fuel usage; Biodiesel fuel facts and characteristics; BioDiesel fuel awareness issues; the present use of BioDiesel in Michigan; BioDiesel availability in Michigan; market development needs; and sourcing BioDiesel feedstock in Michigan.

Jody Pollock, Executive Director of the Michigan Corn Growers Association, spoke to the Committee regarding the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan. Topics discussed included the membership of the organization; policy activities; the Check-Off Program; ethanol usage (E 10 and E 85); new corn products developed; polylactic acid products developed; and other research currently being performed.

Subject to questions and discussion and with no additional business before the Committee, Chair Mayes declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 4:06 p.m.

Representative Jeff Mayes, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk
(517) 373-8538